

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment prior to substantive Examination is respectfully requested.

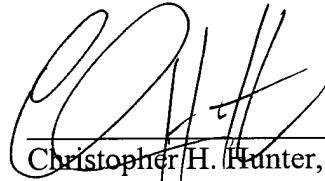
This case is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/090,512, which is now abandoned. A first Office Action had been received in that case, which rejected certain claims as indefinite, and others as unpatentable over certain references. A copy of the Office Action has been submitted with a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. By this Preliminary Amendment, it is believed these issues have been addressed, and that the claims distinguish over the art.

While the art cited in the Office Action has some relevance to the issues addressed by the present invention, the art does not show a filtering apparatus with a washing organ that is automatically sequenced as in the present invention. Adams, U.S. Patent No. 3,176,846 shows a washing organ that requires operator intervention to manipulate a valve and change the direction of the piston coupled to the washing organ. This is not necessary in the present invention. Thus, it is believed that the present invention, as defined in the claims, is patently distinct from the cited art, and that the claims should be in condition for allowance.

Application Serial No. 10/660,391
Preliminary Amendment Dated October 15, 2003

Also by this Preliminary Amendment, a change is being made to the Specification, as Applicant believes an error was made "incorporating by reference" a foreign application, when this is only allowed with US applications (MPEP 608.01(p)).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CH Hunter", is written over a horizontal line.

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